



Railroad President (to Clerk of Weather)—If you do not at once prevent this weather from obstructing the United States Mails, I shall instruct the Government to call out the Federal Troops.

IN A PREDICAMENT.

GOLD USED TO PAY CURRENT EXPENSES.

What an enormous surplus of other money lay in the Treasury—The Gold Reserve Myth Exploded—Bondholders on Top.

Although the administration obtained by the sale of bonds during last year \$117,380,282 for the alleged purpose of redeeming greenbacks and treasury notes, yet Mr. Carlisle is now forced to admit officially that with the exception of \$13,378,451 every dollar of that gold was used to pay the current expenses of the government. The exact amount of gold used for meeting current expenses was \$105,002,143.

The report of the treasurer further shows that on July 1, 1894, the unexpended balances of appropriations aggregated \$78,291,105, and the total amount available for expenditures on that date was \$364,618,414, making the total available appropriation on July 1, 1894, \$442,907,520. The expenditures during the six months ended December 31, 1894, amounted to \$168,952,480, leaving an unexpended balance on January 1, 1895, of \$255,955,039.

You see the bonds were issued to keep up the gold reserve.

Wonder why the proceeds were used for current expenses.

The republicans like Reed, say because of lack of revenue.

Somebody has surely lied.

With \$250,000,000 of surplus in the treasury, it is strange that the gold-worshipping administration should have allowed the sacred gold reserve to be spent for anything else except to maintain the parity of gold and silver.

Funny government, anyway, that mortgages the country to buy gold to pay current expenses when it already has a surplus that it can't appropriate fast enough to keep it from crowding the vaults.

This is an awful condition that so much money should get piled up in the way of the policy of the administration to issue \$500,000,000 of bonds.

This is a predicament.

Why don't Congress get a hustle on itself and appropriate money to buy more guns?

Clear the deck—get this base money out of the way, so that the President can store up the gold he is buying.

Money must not be allowed to accumulate when all the money lenders of the world are clamoring for a chance to lend us gold on fifty-year bonds.

They must be accommodated, or they will bust—and great will be the bust thereof.

The parity of gold and silver must be preserved if we have to buy all the gold in the world to do it.

Just as soon as we get all the gold, then the money lenders will restore silver and we can buy that at the same price.

We must save the money lenders. If we don't Grover won't get his pay from Mr. Rothschilds. Here's all this confounded money piled up here, and when the people see it, they are liable to kick us off the continent for borrowing more.

We must appropriate or perish. The gold reserve was a good scheme—but now we're in a pretty mess of bugs.

The papers have been prying into the private affairs of the government, and found that we had plenty of money all the time.

The bondholders are losing confidence and some of them are getting scared.

They have awful dreams at night of dynamite and wet elm clubs and hemp, and "death to interest bearing bonds."

The President now has a hundred policemen to guard his palace, and he gets letters every day from workmen asking where they can find a job. He actually waked up right in the middle of the night one time lately and wondered what the people were kicking about. He is prosperous—isn't that what they elected him for?

Even the fossilized old mummy show in the Senate is startled to think that the people should want to know what the government is doing.

INTRICACIES OF BANKING.

Expert Bank Officials Into Headed Government Employees.

In the course of an editorial on "The Government and Banking," Harper's Weekly says:

"Long experience has demonstrated that, with few exceptions, the politi-

cians who are sent to Congress or who become members of the cabinet are not capable of mastering the intricacies of the banking business."

Something occult about the banking business, isn't there? Ordinary mortals can't comprehend this idea of getting in debt for thousands of dollars, and then drawing interest on your debts while you pay none on what you owe! This business of cornering money and compelling people to pay you a big rate for the loan on your credit or your promissory notes, is indeed a puzzle. Yes, it is a very peculiar and "intricate" business—almost as hard to understand as three-card monte or the shell game. As politicians and representatives of the people are incapable of comprehending it, the only safe course is to give the bankers the power to frame our currency laws. As they are now, the money power is able to control about everything; but there may be some points in which the bankers could improve these laws, and make it easier to rake in the fruits of others' labor.

How nice if the common people could only be made to believe such stuff—that finance is a matter utterly beyond their comprehension, and it would be safer for them to try to legislate on the tides and the law of gravitation than to tamper with the currency. Wouldn't the fellows on the inside who understand all the "intricacies" of getting something for nothing by hocus-focusing the money supply have a picnic? If money were something the people could take or let alone; if the law didn't make it a legal tender and compel them to pay their debts in it; if it wasn't the only means by which they can conveniently and economically effect the exchanges of their products, then it might be safe to pass the subject by as too intricate for ordinary mortals. But, as it is largely by means of their manipulation of the money supply that the few are able to rob the many of the fruits of their toil, it behooves every man to study the money questions and understand all the devious and "intricate" methods by which wealth uses money to oppress and defraud labor. And about the first question to ask these masters of the "intricacies" of banking is: Why should one man's debt circulate as money and draw interest rather than another's?—Star and Kansan.

What Fools These Laborers Be.

A few days ago 100,000 laborers paraded the streets of the City of Mexico, with banners and music, demanding to be led against Guatemala. There is a dispute between Mexico and Guatemala about a piece of swamp which probably isn't worth 10 cents per acre, and whose ownership could easily be settled by resurvey or arbitration. It has never done the laborers of either country any good, and never will. Yet these 100,000 Mexican laborers parade the streets, clamoring for war! Is it any wonder that tyrants, in so many a land, rule the people when we see that the people themselves are such fools? The kings quarrel, and the people do the fighting—that's the history of mankind. Here we are pretending to be civilized. Almost 1,900 years of Christ and his gospel of peace have been our teachers, and yet we turn out, 100,000 strong, with banners flying, drums beating, and horns tooting—demanding to be led against bayonets and bullets to settle the boundary line of a wretched wilderness of swamp! No wonder our masters despise us—Tom Watson.

How We Soar.

Six years ago this month August Belmont stood in the sawdust of Madison Square Garden and awarded ribbons to stumpy tailed fox terriers. At that time his fame rested on the ownership of the champion brace of the gamy breed which was the height of canine vogue. As bench show judge and president of the American Kennel club he gradually acquired national reputation. To-day he designates to the United States government the terms upon which gold by the hundredweight shall be furnished for redeeming currency notes. He negotiates with a president and a secretary of the treasury in secret upon the fate of a nation's contracts. That is the beauty of a free country. You can't tell when the man you esteem beneath your serious notice will have a big slice of the country standing in his name.—St. Louis Republic.

The constitution says: "Congress shall have power to borrow money on the credit of the United States." Now arises the question how King Grover and Lord Carlisle acquired that power.

A GRAND ADDRESS.

DELIVERED BEFORE THE INDUSTRIAL LEGION.

Gen. Paul Van Der Voort Reviews the Situation and Makes an Eloquent Appeal—Let Organization Be the Watchword of the People's Party.

The duty that has devolved upon me in assuming the position of Commander-in-Chief of the Industrial Legion has been the most burdensome of my life. I spent a quarter of a century in building up the Grand Army, holding all its offices of every grade, and gave after my term as Commander-in-Chief several years in assisting in developing the Women's Relief Corps, which was organized under a call issued by me, and in all these years I never had the load to carry that has been crowded into the last two, in doing the work put into my hands by the National Executive Committee of our party. I have had more anxious days and sleepless nights than I care to number. It is well known I never wanted the place, endeavored to resign at the close of the campaign of 1893, but have been compelled to bear the burden, and am now here to turn it over to some one with capacity and patience greater than mine.

The Legion was organized by the National Executive Committee of the People's Party, acting unofficially, at their meeting at Memphis, Tenn., on November 19, 1892. In conjunction with them, about one hundred of the leaders of the Farmer's Alliance and other industrial orders became its charter members.

The notification of my election came from Hon. H. E. Taubeneck and Geo. F. Washburn, and the formal notice from the secretary of the National Committee, J. H. Turner, who had also been made Adjutant General of the Legion. I at first declined the position, but when earnestly urged from all quarters, I insisted that if I accepted the constitution should be revised, secrecy eliminated and a simpler form adopted. A meeting was called at Indianapolis on December 29, 1892, and Messrs. Taubeneck, Rankin and Turner and a large delegation attended. On the distinct understanding that the National Committee would endorse this plan and hold up my hands with all their power and push the work, I accepted, and the officers of the National Committee issued the following appeal:

"We kindly request that the People's Party state, county and local committees in every state in the Union do all in their power and lend a helping hand to organize the Industrial Legion. Push the organization into every state, county, precinct and school district in the land."

"H. E. TAUBENECK, Chairman.
"J. H. TURNER, Secretary.
"M. C. RANKIN, Treasurer."

At the meeting of the National Executive Committee at Chicago, August 2, 1893, the committee again renewed that request. At the meeting of the full committee at St. Louis, February 22, 1894, the following resolution was adopted as a part of the report of the committee on address: "Resolved, That we renew our recommendation adopted at the meetings of the National Executive Committee at Indianapolis and Chicago, and earnestly urge every state and county committee to organize the Industrial Legion in every voting precinct in the land."

At a meeting of the full committee at St. Louis, December 29, 1894, the following resolution reported by the unanimous vote of the committee on organization was adopted: "Resolved, That while we do not attempt to dictate to any state as to the plan of organization it shall adopt, we renew the recommendation of the national committee in favor of the organization of the Industrial Legion in every precinct in the land; and, further, recommend that no dues shall be exacted only from legions that operate the rebate plan, and that in all cases where members are able, they be urged to send ten cents per annum to headquarters; that all clubs or other orders that wish to change into legions shall send 20 cents for supplies, and that original legions shall send 50 cents, but that no legion shall be denied a charter when it is unable to pay for it, and that these organizations shall be called People's Party Clubs, People's Party Legions or Industrial Legions. In order to suit the conditions in each state, and that Rule 15 of instructions of the Industrial Legion be dropped, and that all People's Party clubs or legions shall report to the same headquarters in order to avoid confusion and to perfect a systematic organization." So, that including the meeting at Washington, February 23, 1893, the national executive committee have endorsed the legion three times and the full committee twice. At Chicago, August 2, 1893, Messrs. Donnelly, Strickler and Rankin were added to the executive council, making the entire executive committee of the People's Party. In addition to the above many state conventions, a great majority of the state committees and other important delegate bodies of our party have approved it, and to further demonstrate the acceptance of this form of organization, we bear on our books the names of over 1,200 of the best and brightest workers of our cause, who have taken a formal commission as legion recruiting officers; we have mailed thousands of constitutions and instructions in response to requests from individual members of our party in every state.

From the very beginning we have had the constant aid of the reform press; they have published all our circulars, also made editorial appeals and we have the service of the Ready Print Populist columns and W. S. Morgan, the efficient and alert sentinel of the National Legion, sent a special edition

of his paper to all the legion members, and all recruiting officers at his own expense, and has constantly kept the legion before the people. I cordially thank the People's Party press everywhere for their potent help; they represent a gallant band whose sacrifices will never be known, who cannot be bought, sold or bartered, and whose unselfish and unrewarded labor to our party is beyond all praise.

The legion will and does fill the long-felt want of a compact political body. It interferes with no other organization; it is simply the partisan club, and its method of organization has met with the cordial approval of our party and is even admired by those who differ from us. All the valid objections that have been made are covered by the resolution adopted by the national committee on December 29 at St. Louis, and all the clubs and farm and labor orders can be chartered by sending names of members and 20 cents, without change of officers or their titles. This was the idea of the national committee and reformers who made the legion, who provided in the original constitution that all farm and labor orders should be chartered free.

I have many and sore grievances that I could air; I have received treatment that I have a right to resent during my life, and send a vendetta down to my tribe, but I here and now bury it all and consecrate myself anew to the work. Realizing the deplorable condition of our nation, that men are nothing but the dust of the earth, and that if we would hand down liberty and free government to coming people, we must bear our burden and faint not, I forbear. I deem it my duty to speak plainly in reference to the difficulty of organizing the People's Party. The forces that compose it have been organized to death and scarcely a week passes but that some versatile genius evolves some new plan to band the people together and still further divide our forces. We have hundreds of discordant camps and scarcely one of them hold a national meeting, but days are devoted to charges and counter-charges of corruption and fraud. These organizations, united, cost a vast sum of money, pay large salaries and are generally firm in the opinion that nobody should be allowed to organize but the peculiar forces that unite with them.

From all of the organizations in the cities the People's Party has not yet received in the nation even the number of voters that are claimed to hold membership in one. If we received these labor votes we could carry every city in the United States. While labor forces willingly pay large dues and assessments to all the different orders they object to the small dues of the legion and the charter fees, and these we have continually reduced and yet the members have left me to bear the burden and pay the bills, and besides, to contribute office rent and the clerical labor of myself and family free of charge. In other words, they have thousands of dollars for non-partisan organizations and not a cent for politics, and leave the national committee and the National Legion headquarters bankrupt and cramped for even postage for the enormous correspondence which comes from all the people.

In addition, we have a dozen farm orders who are, to say the least, not prosperous, who have graduated their members largely into the People's Party; have wasted two years of effort of the best organizers in the nation, trying to revive or resurrect while their members have simply marched on to the front and demanded partisan organization.

All the above orders feared the legion would interfere with their work, and hence, we had, if not the open and active, the negative opposition of the governing forces of all of them, who have simply said wait, and see if we cannot resurrect our own. I have always been a firm believer in labor organizations and unions and when I accepted my position, I said in the address: "I am assured that the legion does not interfere in any way with any of the industrial orders which have so grandly done their part in educating the people, but simply fills the long-felt want of supplying a compact, political body, in which all can unite on one common creed and the only test of membership be loyalty to the platform of the People's Party; if I deemed we should in any way conflict with any of the great industrial or labor organizations I should have nothing to do with it."

If we propose to have any organization worthy of the name for 1896, we must all bury selfish interests and unite all the organizing force we have in the party to band all the people in sympathy with us in one organization, and that the one endorsed by the official voice of the party. The machinery is all ready, the workers duly commissioned, we have made a beginning in all the states but eight, and if added to the patriotic appeal of all the great leaders of labor the reform press will still further continue their noble work, we can win the battle. If the 2,000,000 voters of the People's Party, with the women and noble youth, who are our inspiration and hope, would all meet on a given day and join the People's Legion, it would send dismay among the money changers the world over.

I think all the labor leaders are now convinced that it is folly to strike; they do not even support each other, and in every one that is inaugurated the plutocratic forces have wild-eyed bands of anarchists to commit depredations that prejudice the masses. If Mr. Debs had been supported by all the labor organizations in the United States he could have won; but how many stood off cold-hearted and said to themselves: If he wins it will disband all of our orders and make his the great labor order of the world; so they let him fail and show more sympathy by resolutions than they did by actual aid. When I contemplate the provocation of organized labor I wonder at their

patience and submission, trampled under foot, robbed, shot down like mad-dogs, turned into the street, their places taken by a horde of scum, shipped there from off the streets and amid the slums of Europe, hurled into jail by dishonest, tyrannical judges, they submit to the majesty of the law though its executors degrade its holy teachings and use their power as an engine of oppression. The only place to strike is at the ballot box and the way to get there is to organize the people into the People's Legion; it covers every situation, it answers every purpose, it fills every want and if the plutocratic agencies determine to use force we can be ready if we are wise in the present hour. If we do not rally now we deserve to be enslaved, and I firmly believe that the only hope of settling the tremendous perils that confront us as a nation is in the immediate organization of all the people who demand emancipation from foreign rule.

The developments during the past two years must convince the masses that dangerous elements are at work and that the foes of liberty are entrenched in the very citadels of the republic. They own the President, his cabinet, the great newspapers, and control the leaders of both the old parties. If the spirit of the men that raised liberty poles in New York and threw the tea in Boston harbor was not dead in this nation the whole people would resent the foreign influences exerted on American soil. On the one hand, the king of the Jews, Rothschilds, dominating the financial affairs of the nation, on the other, a potentate who does not speak the English language, ruling with an iron hand the spiritual and meddling with the temporal affairs of 6,000,000 of our people, and the politicians of both the old parties afraid to murmur for fear they will lose votes. I am opposed to foreign dictation and will join hands with any reform force to get rid of it at once and forever. I would brush away the aggression of Great Britain, which from the very beginning has been the open and secret enemy of our Republic. I would adopt a vigorous foreign policy. Let the nation cease to be a cipher on the map of the world; we can afford to be independent. We produce 95 per cent of our raw material, and Great Britain is compelled to buy 90 of hers, and why we should be chained to her chariot wheels is because our rulers are shameless traitors to our interests. Oh, for the spirit of the fathers of 1776!

It is not what we have in our platform that creates so much criticism, but it is largely what men in our party advocate outside of it, for there is not a vital doctrine in that platform that does not appeal to the common sense and patriotic instinct of the whole American people. We stand with every patriot that helped found the Republic and make the constitution on the money question. We stand with Jackson and Lincoln. We are in favor of the money of the constitution. The cardinal doctrines of the graduated income tax, postal savings bank, and ownership of railroad and telegraph systems is advocated by millions outside of our party; there is scarcely a country in the world but ours that does not enjoy the benefits of these blessings.

To-day the European holders of our railroad bonds are demanding that the strictest possible federal supervision shall be inaugurated before they will invest another dollar or even protect what interests they have. The leading German and English financial papers have declared that such must be the case. One of the boodle agents of the administration, Congressman Strauss, of New York, declared so in a speech in Congress a short time ago, and Senator Vilas, another spokesman of the administration, made a desperate fight to have the government own and operate the mail cars, when the postoffice bill was pending in the Senate last week. Recently Carroll D. Wright declared in a public address that in a few years the government would operate at least the railroad systems of the country. The National Tribune, the organ of the Grand Army, urges a postal savings bank, and that system and a government telegraph has been advocated by the postoffice department under all administrations, ever since the days of John A. J. Cresswell.

The men who deprecate an income tax cannot fly with their property to a country in Europe where they will not be compelled to pay one. I have no prejudice against men who have amassed millions honestly. I know some who are noble in every way and who favor this tax; but generally speaking, I am in favor of taxing the stolen millions, aggregated in the hands of insolent, shoddy aristocrats, while they are alive, with an income tax, and after they are dead with an inheritance tax. It is a strange thing that the very planks in our platform that are the law of the land in the nations of Europe, whose method of government our plutocratic citizens so thoroughly admire, are the very ones that are singled out as the most terrific wild-cat doctrines that were ever advocated by the lunatics of the world.

The People's Party is the only straight silver party in existence. Had it not been for the devoted, unselfish labors of its 2,000 newspapers, 10,000 orators and 2,000,000 voters, the cause of silver would have been forever lost. During all the time that we have made this fight without a dollar of aid from any source, except the contributions of the people, we have been constantly opposed, ridiculed and vilified by some of the men and organizations claiming to represent the very essence of the labor cause. While they have squandered thousands of dollars in useless efforts, they have, by adhering to the two old parties, or trying to create a new one, and thus divide the silver forces, been a constant hindrance to our progress.

The mass of our voters are not mine owners. They represent the industrial classes, and have lost more in one day by the demonization of silver

than the mine owners do in a year. By Senator Jones' estimate, the wheat growers lost \$100,000,000 a year, the cotton planters \$250,000,000 and the wage workers, since 1873, enough money to build and equip all the railroads in the United States. We will continue the battle for the free coinage of gold and silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, without the consent of any Jew or Gentile or foreign nation on earth, and we extend fraternal greetings and the warm hand of fellowship to all who advocate the vital doctrines of the People's Party on the money question, and invite them to join with us in this great struggle, with the full assurance that the People's Party fetters the conscience of no human being, that we are simply moving on educational lines until we can all meet in 1896 and prepare a line of battle to meet the enemy. There is no hope from either of the old parties; the People's Party polled the second highest vote in 32 states. The democratic party is dead in the West. It is reeking with fraud and odious with ballot box stuffing, and if we had an honest election it could not carry a Southern state. It deserves to die, and both it and the republican party, as represented by their leaders, are in the grasp of the money power, and each want to preserve the clutch of the banks over the nation. If 4,000 national banks were not fighting silver, the battle would soon be won. Their power to issue money must be destroyed, and on this line, that the government shall issue the money, we will wage the battle, inviting all the forces who favor this doctrine to unite with us.

All the attempts made to change our platform are premature and unwelcome; no new or old party was ever called on to change its platform between conventions. Each state, at its convention, can formulate their ideas, and when we meet in 1896, God will give us wisdom to agree on some sound principles that will unite all the reform forces and lead the people to victory. No conference, no self-constituted dictators, or imaginary statesmen or would-be political bosses have any right to assume the power to obliterate the grand document that has marshaled 3,000,000 voters in line, and I resent the dictum, that because a man stands by the platform he is a traitor to the People's Party.

When I left the republican party I burned the bridges behind me, and I never will be sold or delivered to the democratic party, whether it has labeled silver, gold, nickel or brass, and if our so-called leaders will stand firm we will gather in all the reform elements and elect the next President. All we have to do is to hold the fort, educate the masses, open our doors, North, South, East and West, and wait for the "Coming of the Lord."

Every plan submitted in Congress by the money power is ten times more dangerous to the people than contagious disease. Every one of them has all the vital principles denounced and ridiculed in the sub-treasury plan. Every one of them is class legislation of the vilest kind, and the leaders of the republican party have endorsed the fraudulent issues of bonds and both the old parties seek to load the nation with bonded indebtedness, payable in gold for a generation to come. Cleveland and Carlisle should be impeached and hurled from power. No more rotten and corrupt men ever ruled over a nation. They usurp more power than any king or czar; they override Congress, defy the people and trample law and constitution under foot. The Rothschilds' bond transaction is the most shameful page of our history. General Banks once said: "The treasury department is British ground." So it is to-day, and under this administration the pawn-broker's sign should be added. There is not an anarchist or communist in the People's Party; not a bomb thrower in our line; the men who rob and plunder the people, who evade the law, who purchase and bribe and steal the "livory of Heaven to serve the devil in" are the real anarchists and have brought a horde of that class from across the sea. More than 80 per cent of our voters were born on American soil, and those who were born abroad are the very best element in our nation. The rank and file of the People's Party, though poor in purse, mortgaged and many of them destitute and out of employment, are honest, patient, law-abiding people, and of the thousands of letters received at my office, there were not 100 in all that contained misspelled words or illiterate or incendiary expressions.

We polled our largest vote in the West, where the Union soldiers are the most numerous, and we have a great army with banners of the men that wore the blue marching with us. The gun holder is waging war on the bondholder, who robbed him of his pay during the war, and who has assailed the pension roll ever since. We have another army that wore the gray. They have shaken off the manacles of bourgeois democracy; they stand for a fair ballot and an honest count, for "equal rights to all and special privileges to none." They bury the past, and with the Stars and Stripes waving over every line, they join hands with their brothers who wore the blue to save the nation and preserve the flag forever.

Senator Davis, of Minnesota, once said in a speech: "That this nation may yet be saved by the 95 per cent of American born population who live in the Sunny South." The greatest event in this whole political revolution is the magnificent conflict for the rights of the people waged in the South, and in 1896 they will emancipate all their states and help plant the People's Party candidate in the White House. Let us all consecrate ourselves anew to the holy cause. A great orator recently said: "It has been demonstrated that great wrongs may be righted and great reforms achieved without the shedding of one drop of human blood." Let this be our aim; an army of peace, moving in a resistless tide upon the ballot box, with this pledge in the words of the immortal Lincoln written upon all our hearts: "We here highly resolve that this nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom and that the government of the people, by the people and for the people shall not perish from the earth."

PAUL VAN DER VOORT.